

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

1100 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W., SUITE 600

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-3934

(202) 371-2600

FACSIMILE (202) 371-2540, (202) 371-6566

ROBERT GREENE STERNE
EDWARD J. KESSLER
JORGE A. GOLDSTEIN
SAMUEL L. FOX
DAVID A. CORNWELL
ROBERT W. EDMOND
TRACY-GENE G. DURKIN
MICHELLE A. CYBALA
MICHAEL B. RAY
ROBERT E. SOKOHL

ERICK K. STEFFE
MICHAEL D. LEE
STEVEN R. LUDWIG
JOHN M. COVERT**
LINDA E. ALCORN
RAZ E. FLESHNER
ROBERT C. MILLONIG
MICHAEL V. MESSINGER
JUDITH U. KIM
TIMOTHY J. SHEA, JR.

DONALD R. McPHAIL
PATRICK E. GARRETT
STEPHEN G. WHITESIDE
JEFFREY T. HELVEY*
HEIDI L. KRAUS
JEFFREY R. KURIN
RAYMOND MILLIEN
PATRICK D. O'BRIEN
LAWRENCE B. BUGAISKY
CRYSTAL D. SAYLES*

EDWARD W. YEE
ALBERT L. FERRO*
DONALD R. BANOWIT*
PETER A. JACKMAN
MOLLY A. MCCALL
TERESA U. MEDLER
JEFFREY S. WEAVER
KRISTIN K. VODOVICH
ANDREW S. ROBERTS*
KENDRICK P. PATTERSON*

DONALD J. FLATHERSTONE**
KAREN R. MARKOWICZ**
GRANT E. REED**
SUZANNE E. ZISKA**
BRIAN J. DEL BUONO**
VINCENT L. CAPUANO**
ANDREA J. KAMAGI**
NANCY J. DEGEN**

ROBERT H. BENSON*
OF COUNSEL

*BAY, OTHER THAN D.C.
**REGISTERED PATENT AGENTS

August 24, 1999

WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:
(202) 789-5507

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Appl. No. 09/227,742; Filed: January 8, 1999
For: **Method for Increasing Viability and Transformation Efficiency of
Bacteria During Storage at Low Temperatures**
Inventors: F. R. Bloom *et al.*
Our Ref: 0942.4770003/RWE/GER

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Information Disclosure Statement and Fee Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) (*in duplicate*);
2. A listing of the cited documents on Form PTO-1449 (24 sheets);
3. A copy of each of the cited documents, except for document AR1;
4. Our Check No. 25204 in the amount of \$240.00 to cover the Information Disclosure Statement fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p)); and
5. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
August 24, 1999
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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Grant E. Reed
Agent for Applicants
Registration No. 41.264

Enclosures